

The Sentinel

2013 ECCFA Election Results

ECCFA elections for the 2013-2014 recently took place.

Following is a list of those who were elected. Some committees still have open seats in some divisions.

Academic Technology

Shawn Mikulay (CABS)
Candy Moore (HP)
Patrick Daly (MSE)

Assessment

Fabio Martinez (BUS/SSCT)
Eric Long (CABS)
Brooke Transue (CABS)
Cathy Incapreo (HP)
Sharon Walicek (HP)
Janet Whitset (MSE)

CETL Advisory

Kim Rother (BUS/SSCT)
Lisa West (HP)
Loretta McCallister (LVPA)

Curriculum

Beth Santell (ADLR/STUD SERV)
Joe Rosenfeld (CABS)
Baudelaire Ulysse (LVPA)
Ed Kroll (MSE)

Faculty Development

Len Fitzpatrick (BUS/SSCT)
George Rosa (BUS/SSCT)
Jessica Carpenter (CABS)
Pat O'Brien (CABS)
Maria Kazmi (HP)
Marybeth Koos (LVPA)
Chalyce Deterding (MSE)
Marcia Luptak (UA2)
Lynne Mayer (UA2)
Alisa Smith-Riel (UA1)

Grievance

Roger Ramey (BUS/SSCT)
Elizabeth Becker (MSE)
Sue Ford (UA2)

Honors

Marge Schildknecht (ADLR/STUD SERV)
Dan Kernler (MSE)
Mary Elfring (UA2)

Negotiations

Ellie Swanson (ADLR/STUD SERV)
Susan Timm (BUS/SSCT)
Jessica Carpenter (CABS)
Sue Ford (UA2)

Senate

Ellie Swanson (ADLR/STUD SERV)
Jessica Carpenter (CABS)
Christina Marrocco (CABS)
Pat O'Brien (CABS)
Joel Peck (LVPA)
Howard Russo (LVPA)
Lauren Anderko (MSE)
Mary Elfring (UA2)
Loretta McCallister (UA2)
Cathy Tomasik (UA2)
Baudelaire Ulysse (UA2)
Scott Vaszily (UA2)
Alisa Smith-Riel (UA1)

Sick Bank

Leticia Starkov (BUS/SSCT)
Liz McNulty (CABS)
Roda Ryan (HP)
Dan Maki (LVPA)
Sue Ford (UA2)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Colleagues,

We are entering the last stretch of the semester. Soon enough, final exams and grading days will be here. But there is always work to be done, even as we finish another semester.



We just had ECCFA elections a couple of weeks ago. There is a new negotiation team, senators and committee members. I would like to thank all of those that volunteered to run. Your dedication to the Faculty Association is highly appreciated. Still, we have a couple of seats to be filled. It is important that all divisions are represented in committees, senate and the negotiation team. It is essential that you have a voice that represents your specific concerns. Members of other divisions may not be aware or fully understand the particularities of the issues your division may be facing. Please consider volunteering to represent your division.

On another note, our pensions continue to be under attack. Amendment 01 to Senate Bill 01 has been described as a draconian pension slashing proposal. We need to continue to mount pressure on politicians to stop them from taking away our well-earned pensions. We did not create the pension problem, and it cannot be solved only

at the expense of those of us who have never failed to meet our part of the deal. Keep calling your House Representative and ask them to say "NO" to SBo1, Amendment 1. Please keep up the pressure.

Many challenges lay ahead, negotiations of the bargaining agreement being one of them. The members of the negotiation team have lost no time in getting to work, to prepare the best they can for the upcoming negotiation. The team met on May 3rd for the first time under the leadership of our chief negotiator Howard Russo.

Finally, a cordial and formal invitation to the ECCFA End of the Semester Party that will be held on Thursday, May 13 at 4:30 PM, at Carmina's Restaurant and Banquets. All are welcome. Feel free to bring your spouses and family for an evening of music, food, camaraderie and dancing. ECCFA will provide food and music, and there will be a cash bar. Please RSVP by May 10 to Jessica Wedemeyer at jwedemeyer@elgin.edu.

Have a great end of the semester!

In Unity,

Luis Martinez
ECCFA President

Interesting Loop Hole in the Withdrawal Policy

By Cindy Hutman

I had a student this semester who came to every class and took the in-class multiple choice portion of the exams but never turned in essays or assignments, never posted to the discussion or did homework. Eventually I confronted her about this. She shrugged her shoulders and said she "wasn't good at writing." I asked if she understood there was no way to pass the course without doing that writing. She said she did understand. I remind all students of the 10th week withdrawal deadline. She remained in the course.

A week after the 10th week withdrawal deadline, I get a notice that this student has been withdrawn from the course for "non-payment." I have never had a student withdrawn this late in the semester for non-payment and questioned the accuracy of this. I was surprised to learn that this student had defaulted on her last tuition payment and therefore she had been withdrawn from her courses. Not withdrawn as in "W" or "AW" but her transcript had been wiped completely clean. So, although this had been a financially damaging 11 weeks, her academic record is completely clean!! This is an interesting way to get around the college's ACADEMIC withdrawal policy. Set up a payment plan for tuition. Try out a class. If it looks like it is going to be too much work, stop paying and everything disappears.

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ERIN'S LAW

By Pat O'Brien

This past April was designated as "sexual assault awareness" month on the campus of E.C.C. As such, there were a number of informative presentations given by the staff of the Community Crisis Center. April 25th was the date of the final event of the series which concluded with a "Take Back the Night" rally and march throughout the campus.

One of the speakers for the 4/25 event was Erin Merryn who is the driving force behind what has come to be known as "Erin's Law". Erin discussed her history of childhood sexual abuse, which began at age six, at the hands of two different assailants. As part of her discussion she noted that she did "not tell" anyone of the abuse because she did not have the words to describe what was happening to her. She expanded on her experience adding that educators prepare children for tornados, "Stranger Danger", how to say NO to drugs, etc., BUT neglect to provide children with any sort of vocabulary or context to deal with sexual overtures at the hands of predators (often very "trusted" people) in their worlds. The possibility of sexual abuse intruding into the lives of children is far more likely than we would like to acknowledge!!! The data suggest the following:

- Every 6 minutes a child is sexually abused in the United States
- 1 in 4 females and 1 in 6 males will be sexually assaulted before reaching the age of 18
- Only 1 in 10 children who are sexually assaulted with tell someone.

"Erin's Law" is an attempt at providing proactive remedies.

According to her web site (<http://www.erinslaw.org>)*, "Erin's Law" requires:

- All public schools implement a prevention oriented child sexual abuse program that teaches:
 - Students preK-5th grade, age appropriate techniques to recognize child sexual abuse and tell a trusted adult
 - School personnel about child sexual abuse
 - Parents and guardians the warning signs of child sexual abuse, plus needed assistance, referral or resource information to support sexually abused children and their families.

This law was extended in the state of Illinois on January 24th, 2013. The implementation should take place by January 2014. Other states in which "Erin's Law" has passed include Indiana, Maine, Missouri, and Michigan. It is pending in Georgia, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, and Pennsylvania. Ms. Merryn has made the goal of passing this legislation in all 50 states her life's work. I would encourage you to visit Ms. Merryn's website* for additional information on this topic.

...Loophole Continued

Let me turn this around. A fiscally responsible student signs up for a course, pays all his tuition immediately. He realizes before the 10th week withdrawal date that the course is going to be too much right now and has to withdraw. A "W" will appear on his transcript. Not as bad as an "F" but not as good as having your transcript cleared as happened for the fiscally irresponsible student. Or, far worse, the fiscally responsible student who realizes after the 10th week that he is not going to be able to successfully complete a course that is completely paid for. He can't withdraw, he receives an "F" on his transcript. While I have no problem with this result given the college policies, I do have a problem with this student suffering an "F" because he paid the college on time while the student who didn't pay on time suffers no penalty on her transcript.

2012-2013 ECCFA Senators**LVPA**

Joel Peck
Howard Russo

BUS

Linda Hefferin

HP

Michele Brynelsen
Kim Tarver

MSE

Mary O'Sullivan
Miroslav Rezac

CABS

Lori Clark
Cindy Hutman
Pat O'Brien
Glenn Turner

LRC/CON

Armando Trejo

SSCT

Gary Norden
David Reich

UAF Senators

Rick Bonnom
Dan Kocher
David Lawrence
Marcia Luptak
Tim Marquez
Loretta McCallister
John Mravik
Chad Pearion
Joyce Ross
Julie Roth
Cathy Tomasik
Baudelaire Ulysse
Cassandra Watson

**Sentinel Calendar**

The Sentinel will return in the fall semester. The first issue will be published in September.

2013 Senate Meetings

• May 15

All Senate meetings are on Wednesdays, from 3:00-5:00, in C120. All faculty are welcome to attend.